

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 861  
By West

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Tony Garr for meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee and upon being named as the Consumer Health Advocate of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens, who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Tony Garr is one such individual, who was recently named as the Consumer Health Advocate of the Year by Families USA; and

WHEREAS, Families USA, a national non-profit organization for health care consumers, recognized Mr. Garr on behalf of his efforts in preserving the TennCare enrollment of many Tennesseans during recent cutbacks in the State's healthcare system during its recent Health Action conference in Washington, D. C.; and

WHEREAS, Tony Garr is the founding Executive Director of Tennessee Health Care Campaign (THCC), the statewide non-profit organization that was responsible for reducing the number of Tennesseans who lost benefits under the recent health care cost reduction program by half; and

WHEREAS, by organizing and mobilizing opposition of the cuts to TennCare, Tony Garr, "held high the torch of social justice, and he lit many other torches through his tireless efforts"; and

WHEREAS, prior to founding THCC, Mr. Garr rendered sterling service as the Executive Director of the Tennessee Affiliate of the American Diabetes Association, the Executive Director of the Cumberland Chapter of the National Hemophilia Foundation, an AFDC eligibility

counselor for the Tennessee Department of Human Services, and a technical training director for the Peace Corps; and

WHEREAS, Tony Garr epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mr. Garr for his dedication to the state of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Tony Garr for his meritorious service to the state of Tennessee, offer our congratulations for his being named the Families USA Consumer Health Advocate of the Year, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.